



DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD

Public Involvement & Communications (PIC) Committee

March 16, 2021

Virtual Meeting via Teleconference and GoToMeeting

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<p><i>This is only a summary of issues and actions discussed at this meeting. It may not represent the fullness of represented ideas or opinions, and it should not be used as a substitute for actual public involvement or public comment on any particular topic unless specifically identified as such.</i></p>

Opening

Jeff Burright, Oregon Department of Energy and PIC chair, welcomed meeting participants.

Stan Branch, US Department of Energy (DOE), announced that this meeting was being held in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

The TWC committee adopted the meeting summary for its December 2020 virtual meeting.

The committee elected its chair and vice chair for 2021. There was only one nomination for chair, and Jeff Burright was elected to continue to serve as chair. There were two nominations for vice chair: Susan Coleman, Public-at-Large, and Dan Solitz, Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board. The committee elected Dan Solitz to serve as PIC vice chair for 2021.

Jeff invited PIC members and others to participate in a Round Robin to help get to know each other better and to answer the question: *What is an unfinished conversation at Hanford that you would like to have?*

The compiled responses to the question are in the table below.

What is an unfinished conversation at Hanford that you would like to have?

THE FUTURE	COMMUNITY	PEOPLE	WASTE	MONEY	CONTRACTING
Cleanup end states and future uses. What are the assumptions about what it looks like when we are done? Who will be using the site and how?	Intersection of trust and loyalty in light of various scientific opinions and approaches	How do we build Diversity & Inclusion practices into the nomination process for future board members?	Expand the areas where we can deposit waste safely. Economize.	Cooperation between HAB & DOE on Hanford budgets. What & when can HAB receive information (and what kind)?	IDIQ end state contracting. Effectiveness. Problems & Solutions.
More discussions about the whole site, surrounding community, and what jobs will still be here? Will cleanup mean the site will be clean enough to be used by industries or for other uses? Would people be comfortable using the site?	How do we encourage people to recognize the importance of not completely giving over to the science & maintaining ability to acknowledge emotions and potential lack of understanding re: the decisions that need to be made. Enable experts to help us with decisions. Taxpayer conscious. May be others in a stronger position of knowledge that should be listened to.	What is incremental success as we proceed? Conversations focusing on success.	High level waste - who has power? Is the science done right? Is it OK to do? What is the process?	What kind of public health are we buying by spending money at Hanford? Considering other things public money can be spent on? What is the greater good? What does the public think of the money we spend at Hanford? Are we getting our money's worth?	
How do you preserve long-term decisions over generational timeframes? Anticipate a lot of staff & leadership turnover in next 15 years - avoid turmoil in cleanup.	Is the HAB really making a positive difference in Hanford cleanup? Are we making a difference?	How are BIPOC employees or LGBTQ+ employees supported.	High-level waste		
What should we assume about people in the Central Plateau in the future?	How do we continue to build community around Hanford cleanup?	Inter-generational appeal for people to join the HAB. Strategies to do this & recruit/bring people in.	Waste reclassification. Pros. Cons. Schedule & cost impacts.		
When is waste disposed? If waste leaves a container, it is disposed or just being stored?	How should public input inform decision making?	Is the HAB helping define success?			
Formalize the effort to reach out to maintain arts, literature, and information over the long term					
How dirty is acceptable and at what cost? Hanford cleanup end state(s). What is the vision?					

Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Public Involvement Calendar

Dana Cowley, HMIS, reviewed the DOE 3-Day Comment Period on the 242-A Evaporator Basin and the TPA 45-Day Comment Period on the M-91 Milestones. She also went over the six items in the Holding Bin:

- Class 2 for 400 Area Waste Management Unit
- Class 2 for LERF/ETF Supplemental Organic Treatment System
- Class 2 for LERF/ETF Groundwater Management Plan
- Class 3 for Single-Shell Tanks
- Class 3 PUREX tanks TK-P4 and TK-40
- Annual Budget Priorities.

Ryan Miller, Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) reviewed the four Ecology items on the calendar:

- 45-Day Comment Period for WTP Chapter 11 Closure Plan
- 45-Day Comment Period for 242-A Evaporator New Wall Penetrations Class 3
- 45-Day Comment Period for LERF and 200 ETF Construction of Basin 41 Class 3
- 45-Day Comment Period for 242-A Evaporator Basin 41 Tie-in Class 3.

Liz Mattson, Hanford Challenge asked if this was the second round of permit modifications for the Basin 41 tie-in construction. Dana responded that it was the second round.

Emy Laija, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provided the link to the 200 West EE/CA fact sheet: <https://www.hanford.gov/pageAction.cfm/calendar?&IndEventID=13970>

Ryan Miller and Emy Laija informed PIC members that Ecology and the TPA agencies are working on a high-level video for the M-91 public comment period. They would like to get feedback from the PIC on what questions the video should answer. Jeff Burright said that if he were going to watch a video on M-91 he would want to know what is changing and what does this mean. He would also want to know what waste is staying at Hanford longer and where. Liz Mattson said she would like a brainstorming session to provide ideas for the video. Ryan said he would explore that possibility.

Draft Advice – Public Involvement for Key TPA Documents

Steve Wiegman, Public-at-Large, proposed that the PIC have a conversation with DOE about the draft advice. That suggestion was met with mixed reviews from PIC members as that has not traditionally been done for HAB draft advice.

Pam Larsen, City of Richland, said she was not familiar with the issues behind this draft advice. Jeff Burright explained that in 2015, the TPA agencies unveiled the Inner Area Principles which addressed the long-term waste management area on the Central Plateau. In 2016, the TPA agencies briefed the HAB, and the HAB issued advice. Then recently, the Inner Area Principles were added to the TPA without any additional public comment.

Pam expressed a strong opinion that the River and Plateau (RAP) Committee needs to be part of this conversation since the Central Plateau is in the RAP scope of work. Tom Sicilia, Oregon Office of Energy

and RAP chair, indicated that RAP has requested a briefing on this issue last October. However, that briefing has not yet happened.

Jeff asked if it was appropriate to keep this draft advice moving forward. PIC agreed to continue to work on the draft advice and to engage RAP. The target is to have the draft advice ready for the full HAB to consider it at its June meeting. There will be a need for a PIC call or meeting between now and then to approve the draft advice for sending on to the full Board.

Hanford Site Virtual Tour – A Look Behind the Scenes

Scott Stover, DOE, provided an overview of the new virtual tour of the Hanford site. The purpose of the briefing was to introduce the PIC to the virtual tour platform. It is an online, self-guided tour. Scott walked through the link to enter the tour, as well as a demonstration of navigating through the tour. Elements included using a map to locate points of interest, as well as navigation from a sidebar on the left side of the screen.

Most of the pages offer features to see inside buildings and facilities, as well as moving to other parts of the Hanford site.

Scott explained that the tour provides another tool to expand public awareness of Hanford cleanup and to reach people who have not had the opportunity to physically come to the site. It also provides access to some locations that are not accessible to visitors. Feedback on the tour has been positive.

Committee Discussion

Jeff Burrigh asked if the tour would continue to be available after COVID. He observed that the current link to the tour is on the rotating banner on the Hanford website. He asked if there could be a more permanent icon on the website homepage to make it easier to find and access the tour. Scott Stover said that DOE is looking at a redesign of the Hanford website, and he would share that suggestion.

Steve Wiegman suggested that a summary, non-interactive version of the tour could be put at the Tri-Cities airport using screens containing rolling information.

Dan Solitz, Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board, suggested more photographs and visuals to offer a better view of what some of the technical equipment does.

Jeff Burrigh suggested to Ryan Miller that the TPA agencies combine their efforts to link the virtual tour with permitting and public comment opportunities. Tom Sicilia, Oregon Department of Energy, added a suggestion to link the tour to records searches in the Administrative Record. Scott Stover observed that some suggestions would be easier to implement than others.

PIC did not identify any specific follow up actions to this agenda item.

Environmental Management Sites – Specific Advisory Board (EMSSAB) Charges

Jeff Burrigh explained that the HAB chair and vice chair will be attending a meeting of the EMSSAB chairs in April. DOE has asked each of the boards for multiple products and input describing public involvement from their site. The purpose of this agenda topic is to review the key requested products and prepare them for HAB discussion at its March 17-18 meeting. Susan Leckband added that what the

EMSSAB chairs are working on is a two-stage process towards developing a national strategy, and this input is just the first step.

The group worked through the PowerPoint slides that outline the potential HAB view on the charges:

- Identify the best practices your site performs and document those on the provided slide
- Identify improvement opportunities for your site and document those on the provided slide
- Identify the top three suggestions for improving stakeholder interactions during the next 10 years and document those on the provided slide.

The drafts of each of these slides contained a lot of words and detail. The group discussed and word smithed the slides to winnow the ideas down to the most important concepts. Revisions were made for several items, including:

- At Hanford, the TPA agencies do outreach, not the HAB.
- Reflecting key points in past HAB advice that contain principles for public involvement
- Educate the public early
- Effective public notice
- Ensure transparent decision making
- How broad is the interested and affected public for Hanford geographically?

In addition to the three PowerPoint slides, the request included completing two Excel spreadsheets that document outreach activities at Hanford in more detail. There was not a lot of time left in the agenda item, so the group did not go over these spreadsheets in detail. The information in the spreadsheets was largely capturing past and existing outreach activities.

The group agreed to send the revised three PowerPoint slides to the full HAB after the PIC meeting so that they could be discussed the following day.

PIC Work Plan and Preparation for the April Leadership Workshop

The group discussed some items for improving outreach for the HAB, including –

- Adding HAB member photos and links to the organizations they represent on the Hanford website
- A new and improved orientation for HAB members
- Creating goals for HAB members for sharing information back to their groups and their communities
- Moving PIC meetings to Committee Week instead of the day before full HAB meetings
- Post-COVID, identifying what meetings are better done virtually.

Ginger Wireman, Ecology, also informed the committee that Ecology is rolling out a series of short sessions on Hanford topics for the general public.

The PIC chair, PIC past chair, and new PIC vice chair are all invited to the Leadership Workshop in April. They will take the ideas from this discussion and the PIC work plan to feed into the discussions at that meeting.

HAB Member Self-Assessments

Liz Mattson said that one thing she has been working on is a monthly meet-up for educators to talk about how to bring Hanford issues to classrooms.

Jeff Burright noted that the Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board is meeting next week. It will receive an update on the Hanford Natural Resource Damage Assessment and other topics.

Ginger Wireman said that she had spoken with 13 people last week regarding Hanford employment opportunities, including a few college students.

Committee Business & Open Forum

In Open Forum, Steve Wiegman said that he does not want the HAB to steer away from difficult conversations. It is important that we all share our perspectives and build understanding. He suggested that for topics for which DOE is not ready to make a formal presentation, that the HAB pick one of those topics and seek DOE concurrence concurrent to have a targeted Open Forum about a specific issue. He asked if DOE could support that idea.

Gary Younger recommended that idea be discussed at the April Leadership Workshop.

Attachments

- Attachment 1: [Agenda](#)
- Attachment 2: [DDFO slide](#)
- Attachment 3: [Draft PIC meeting summary for December 2020](#)
- Attachment 4: [PIC elections process for 2021 chair and vice chair](#)
- Attachment 5: [TPA Public Involvement Calendar](#)
- Attachment 6: [Draft Advice: Public Involvement in USDOE or TPA vision cleanup guiding documents](#)
- Attachment 7: [Hanford Site Self-guided Virtual Tour](#)
- Attachment 8: [EMSSAB Charge Templates](#)
- Attachment 9: [EMSSAB Template Charge #1](#)
- Attachment 10: [EMSSAB Template Charge #2](#)
- Attachment 11: [HAB Issue Manager Team list](#)
- Attachment 12: [PIC work plan](#)

Attendees

Board Members and Alternates:

Steven Anderson, Primary	Kristie, Baptiste-Eke, Primary	Jan Catrell, Alternate
Susan Coleman, Primary	Rob Davis, Primary	Earl Fordham, Primary
Tom Galioto, Primary	Steve Wiegman, Primary	Becky Holland, Primary
Susan Leckband, Primary	Liz Mattson, Primary	Jeff Burright, Alternate
Marissa Merker, Alternate	Vince Panesko, Alternate	Tom Sicilia, Alternate

Dan Strom, Alternate	Chris Sutton, Alternate	Bob Suyama, Primary
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Others:

Stan Branch, DOE	Ryan Miller, Ecology	Dana Cowley, HMIS
Scott Stover, DOE	Ginger Wireman, Ecology	Jen Colborn
Gary Younger, DOE	Roberto Armijo, EPA	Ashley Herring, ProSidian
	Emerald Laija, EPA	Ruth Nicholson, ProSidian

Note: Participants for this virtual meeting were asked to sign in with their name and affiliation in the CHAT box of GoToMeeting. Not all attendees shared this information. The attendance list reflects what information was collected at the meeting.